

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SALT T 01551 081446Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00 ACDE-00

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O R 081425Z MAR 74

FM USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2253

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 1551

EXDIS/SALT

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: XGDSI

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON MARCH 8 MEETING (SALT TWO - 400)

1. AT TODAY'S MEETING SEMENOV MADE STATEMENT REPEATING THEIR OCTOBER 9 POSITION ON MRV'S. (HE MADE NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN MRV'S AND MIRV'S.) UNDER RUBRIC OF THROW-WEIGHT HE REPEATED THEIR STANDARD FBS POSITION.

2. I MADE A STATEMENT REVIEWING OUR POSITION AND INCORPORATING TEXT OF STATEMENT ON ALLOWANCE FOR BOMBER PAYLOAD IN CENTRAL SYSTEM THROW-WEIGHT AGGREGATE CONTAINED GENEVA 1358. MY STATEMENT ALSO INCLUDED BRIEF RESUME OUR POSITION ON IMPORTANCE OF STABILITY WITH RELATIONSHIP OUR PROPOSALS TO THAT CONCEPT. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT TODAY'S STATEMENT COMPLETED PRESENTATION OF BASIC ELEMENTS IN CONCEPTUAL APPROACH THAT WE HAVE TAKEN AT THIS SESSION.

3. IN OUR PRIVATE CONVERSATION, I NOTED FAILURE IN HIS STATEMENT TODAY, AS WELL AS IN HIS CONVERSATION YESTERDAY, TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN MRV'S AND MIRV'S, AND THE INTEREST THAT I THOUGHT THE SOVIET SIDE SHOULD HAVE HAD IN OUR PROPOSITION

SECRET

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PAGE 02 SALT T 01551 081446Z

TO EXEMPT EXISTING MRV'S FROM THE ICBM MIRV-ED THROW-WEIGHT

LIMITATION. HE INDICATED HE UNDERSTOOD THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO, BUT HIS STATEMENT TODAY WAS BASED UPON HIS INSTRUCTIONS AND HE HAD NOTHING FURTHER TO ADD.

4. HE PROBED ME HARD ON EXACTLY HOW WE WOULD PROPOSE TO MAKE "AN ALLOWANCE" FOR HEAVY BOMBERS IN THE OVERALL CENTRAL SYSTEM THROW-WEIGHT CONCEPT. HAPPILY OUR DISCUSSION ON THIS TRAILED OFF INTO A DISCUSSION BETWEEN OURSELVES AND THE INTERPRETERS ON THE EXACT MEANING OF "ALLOWANCE" AND THE DIFFICULTY OF INTERPRETING IT INTO RUSSIAN. HE ALSO PRESSED HARD ON FBS AND "HOW WE WERE GOING TO RESOLVE THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE IN TIME AVAILABLE." IN RESPONSE TO THIS, I REPEATED OUR NON-CIRCUMVENTION FORMULA. DURING COURSE THIS DISCUSSION I SAID THAT I HAD NOTED BREZHNEV'S STATEMENTS AND STATEMENTS THEY HAD MADE AT VIENNA MBFR TALKS RE AIRCRAFT AND NUCLEAR ISSUES AND ASKED WHETHER "THERE WAS ANYTHING FURTHER THAT HE WANTED TO SAY TO ME ON THE SOVIET POSITION" ON THIS ISSUE. HE SIMPLY REPEATED THAT MBFR WAS DEALING ONLY WITH "REGIONAL" PROBLEMS AND WE WERE DEALING WITH "GLOBAL" PROBLEMS. JOHNSON

SECRET

NNN

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